

where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT FOR SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 1996*

Ms. DUNN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to adjust the boundary of the Snoqualmie National Forest to allow private lands owned by the Weyerhaeuser Co. located next to the Snoqualmie National Forest to become a part of the National Forest.

This boundary adjustment will facilitate a land exchange which involves approximately 7,200 acres of National Forest land and 33,000 acres of private land owned by the Weyerhaeuser Co., of which about 6,278 are outside the present boundary of the Snoqualmie National Forest. This boundary adjustment is known as the Huckleberry Land Exchange.

This landmark agreement has been several years in the making and was brought about by a collaborative and cooperative effort between the Sierra Club's Checkerboard Project and the Weyerhaeuser Co. The Huckleberry Land Exchange includes acreage that is west of the Cascade Crest in King and Pierce Counties and will add a substantial donation of land by Weyerhaeuser into the national Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area.

By entering into this cooperative agreement with the Sierra Club's Checkerboard Project, the public will benefit from a substantial donation of land. This donation will be one of only a few added this year into our Nation's wilderness areas. By consolidating ownership, an additional connecting corridor of wildlife habitat between the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and the Mount Si Conservation Area will be created. Also, we will be able to add substantial acreage to the I-90 viewshed—the area visible to the public from I-90—to support the objectives of the Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust. The Trust is a nonprofit organization whose sole purpose is to create and permanently protect a multipurpose greenway along Interstate-90 from the foothills of the Cascade Mountains across Snoqualmie Pass to Puget Sound.

To accomplish the land exchange through the administrative process, an Environmental Impact Statement must be completed. This document is expected to be published at the end of May. After the public comment period,

a final Environmental Impact Statement will be released. In order to give the Forest Service authority to administer the exchange area, introduction and passage of congressional boundary modification legislation is necessary in 1996.

The Huckleberry Land Exchange is a win-win proposal that enhances both parties land ownership patterns administratively and environmentally. By consolidating ownership the Forest Service will be able to implement a more effective ecosystem-based management that will allow for wetland protection and long-term protection for wildlife. It is of importance to note that the land acquired by Weyerhaeuser will be managed for long-term timber production, and will include specific measures to protect water quality, aesthetics, and other resources as required by the Washington State Forest Practices Act and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, this land exchange is a text book example of how land disputes can be resolved between parties that are willing to look for areas of agreement rather than differences.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Resources Committee to bring this measure to the whole House for passage this session.

#### TRIBUTE TO ADM. MIKE BOORDA

HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 1996*

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, today I attended a beautiful and moving memorial service for Adm. Mike Boorda, our Chief of Naval Operations. Like all such services, it was an occasion to shed some tears. However, it was also an occasion to celebrate the life of a good man and to recognize the extent of his contributions to both the Navy and our Nation.

Admiral Boorda had all the qualities of a good leader. He was intelligent, creative, practical, and forward looking. He had a wonderful sense of humor that delighted everyone he met, and he was a person of great integrity. What took him from the level of good leader to the level of great leader, however, was the fact that he never forgot that he was a sailor long before he was an admiral.

Although he rose to the Navy's highest post, Mike Boorda never forgot what it was like to be an enlisted man or a junior officer, and he consistently put the needs of those men and women ahead of his own. He was a genuinely warm and humble man, and his love and respect for the Navy and for those under his command were boundless. Those feelings were warmly reciprocated, as we saw today.

In my opinion, Admiral Boorda was one of the greatest CNO's the Navy has had. I was proud to call him my friend, and I will miss him very much. As his friends and colleagues honor his memory today, I ask my colleagues to join me in praying for his family, for his beloved Navy, and for our Nation, which has lost a great leader.

#### CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 16, 1996*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 178) establishing the congressional budget for the U.S. Government for fiscal year 1997 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1988, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002:

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Chairman, the Republican budget resolution continues the assault on civilian research and development initiated in the first session of the 104th Congress. As compared to the President's request, House Concurrent Resolution 178 cuts over \$3 billion in fiscal year 1997 and nearly \$18 billion over the 6-year period from civilian science agencies. A summary of some of the anticipated impacts follows:

#### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

If implemented, the Fiscal Year 1997 Republican Budget Resolution would have a deeply negative impact on the nation's civil space program. Not only does it cut the national Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) budget by almost three quarters of a billion dollars more than the Administration over the six-year period, but it makes those cuts in a manner that would fundamentally destroy the balanced program that has been a hallmark of the space program since its inception almost four decades ago.

Specifically, the Budget Resolution would slash the funding for the Mission to Planet Earth (MTPE)—a major national environmental research and monitoring initiative—by a third (i.e., by almost \$2.8 billion over six years), effectively canceling the project as currently conceived. In addition, the Budget Resolution would cut NASA's aeronautics budget by almost \$900 million over the same period. A cut of that magnitude will jeopardize important research initiatives in aircraft safety; improvement of the nation's air traffic management system; development of quieter, more fuel-efficient aircraft; and many other important areas. The aeronautics funding cut is particularly troubling in view of the fact that the aviation sector has traditionally made a huge positive contribution to the U.S. trade balance and has been the source of hundreds of thousands of high-tech jobs for American workers. In sum, implementation of the Budget Resolution would do damage to NASA and to the nation's R&D capabilities.

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Although the Republicans have proclaimed that they assign the highest priority to basic research in the federal R&D budget, NSF, the agency with the broadest charter for support of basic research and science education, would decline in actual buying power. Although there is proposed a 3% growth for NSF's research accounts, the resolution provides for no growth in its education directorate and other critical operations. In addition, the increase proposed for the research account is about \$40 million below the President's request, which would provide 4.7% growth. This translates into nearly 500 fewer research projects being funded in fiscal year 1997.

The Budget Committee's report language continues the indirect assault begun last